



October 2014

To Georgia School System Special Education District Coordinators:

Funding for medical equipment for special needs children now available

The Fragile Kids Foundation is reaching out to school system Special Education coordinators statewide to request help in sharing information with the families of special needs children about free therapeutic, rehabilitative and transportation equipment. Kindly review and share with your school system special education, MOID and other professionals working with disabled and developmentally delayed students of all ages. A recent large grant from the James M. Cox Family Foundation has resulted in funding for the equipment outlined below at NO COST TO FAMILIES.

Please note, this is equipment is for personal use, not items to be used exclusively in the classroom. We appreciate your help in reaching out to families in need of items ranging from van wheelchair lifts, to pediatric car seats, seating, bathing tools and much more.

Applications for General Equipment Grants, Wheelchair Lifts/Ramps for Vans and the "UpSee" therapy tool that allows children in wheelchairs to walk alongside a caregiver can be found on our website:

www.fragilekids.org.

Also available are reservation forms for families to borrow an All-Terrain Wheelchair and a list of vendors statewide for those seeking wheelchair lifts for vans, ceiling lifts or homes and stair lifts.

We thank you in advance for your help. Fragile Kids Foundation does not want to be a secret for families in need of critically needed medical equipment that has been prescribed to them yet is not covered by insurance or Medicaid and is too expensive for most families to afford.

With appreciation,

Carolyn Polakowski
Executive Director

For over 25 years the consistent mission of the Fragile Kids Foundation is to enhance the quality of life and wellbeing of children with support, supplies and prescribed medical equipment not covered by Georgia Medicaid or private insurance for Georgia's medically fragile children living with chronic illnesses, genetic and traumatic disorders and orthopedic and neuro-muscular challenges.

Our Goals:

Fragile Kids strives to create safer, healthier lives for Georgia children living with a wide range of diagnoses, including: Cerebral Palsy, Muscular Dystrophy, Spina Bifida, Mitochondrial Disorder, Retts Syndrome, Angelmans and other genetic/traumatic injuries.

Assistance offered to families includes: wheelchair lifts, stair-lifts, and overhead lifting systems to safely transport children in wheelchairs, ramping for homes and vans, specialized car seats, toileting and bathing systems, gait trainers, standers, pediatric strollers and more through grant and loaned equipment initiatives.

Eligibility: Georgia Children, age birth to 21, with a medically fragile diagnosis (Cerebral Palsy, Spina Bifida, Muscular Dystrophy genetic disorders, traumatic injury, genetic challenges, etc.)

Examples of Assistance

- Transport equipment to safely move a medically fragile child without injuring them or their Care givers such as a wheelchair lift for the family van, stair-lifts, and overhead lifts
- Ramps to transport children from home to vehicle
- Specialized Car seats
- Toileting and Bathing Systems
- Specialized Strollers (wheelchairs)
- Positioning Chairs
- Standers
- Gait Trainers
- Therapeutic Tricycles & Bikes
- All-Terrain Wheelchairs

New! The "UpSee", a new therapy device that supports both physical therapy goals as well as allowing a wheelchair bound child to walk upright along caregivers to kick a ball, give a hug and be at eye level with other children